Abstract

A method is ~~specified~~ _described_ for operating an automation system, the automation system having at least one input unit for receiving

5 process signals and at least one output unit for driving external peripherals, which are communicatively interconnected via a bus. _In the method,_ ~~the method being characterized in that~~ at least one of the input units and at least one of the output units are constructed as failsafe input unit ~~(EE)~~ and failsafe output

10 unit ~~(AE)~~, respectively. _A_ ~~and that~~ the failsafe input unit ~~(EE)~~ transmits a telegram ~~(T)~~ to the failsafe output unit ~~(AE)~~ at predetermined times. _The_ ~~and that the~~ telegram ~~(T)~~ includes at least one useful information item ~~(TN)~~, one destination point code ~~(TT)~~ designating the addressed output unit ~~(AE)~~ and one

15 origin code ~~(TS)~~ designating the transmitting input unit ~~(EE)~~, and that the output unit ~~(AE)~~ interprets the continuous reception of the telegram ~~(T)~~ as an indication of an intact communication relationship, and otherwise shifts the connected peripherals into a safe state.

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~~Figure 1~~

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